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No. 187

## House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CASTEN).

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
October 25, 2021.

I hereby appoint the Honorable SEAN CASTEN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

### SMALL BUSINESSES SUSTAIN OUR ECONOMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in strong support of America's small businesses.

Nearly half of American workers are employed by small businesses, and their livelihoods are being threatened by new taxes and new regulations that are being proposed by the administration and liberals in Congress.

In the past year already, our small businesses have been hamstrung by arbitrary lockdown orders that have stunted growth and strained our recovery.

Now they are being squeezed even harder by supply chain issues and labor shortages caused by President Biden's policy of paying workers to remain at home.

Now the President is refusing to address the crisis that his administration has caused.

Recently, I visited Guy Chemical in Somerset County, Pennsylvania. The supply chain issues that they face have delayed shipments for months.

Problems ranging from backlogs at the Port of Los Angeles to a lack of truck drivers on our Nation's highways have resulted in shortages and backlogs that are straining businesses that actually hold our communities together. Small businesses are truly the backbone of our economy.

Let's be clear: This administration's failed policies are threatening these American small businesses.

To make matters even worse, some Members of this body are now threatening to impose new taxes that would take as much as 39 percent of revenues away from these vital small businesses. This wasteful taxation directly harms the Americans that work for small businesses and rely on them for their daily needs and for their paychecks.

Now is the time to put a stop to this tax-and-spend spree.

Now is the time to stand up for the small businesses that truly sustain our economy.

And now is the time to put Americans first and not the liberal politicians.

### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 4 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FOSTER) at 2 p.m.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Receive our prayers this day, O Lord. Receive them and supply us in our need. For our prayers reflect the disquiet of our lives, the need for answers, the need for encouragement, the need for relief from conflict and worry.

Remind us that what we want can only be found in You. You are the source of all knowledge, the source of our strength, the source of lasting peace.

By Your divine power You have given us everything we need to live, and all You ask of us is to live a Godly life, a life where we refrain from the vain expectation that our needs can be satisfied by anything or anyone but You.

Give us the will to accept that our contentment is found only in You. Give us the understanding that Godliness, an attitude attuned to Your divine power and provision, gains us all we desire.

So may we direct our restless hearts to live a righteous life, that we would live contented in the bounty of Your righteousness.

In Your strong and sufficient name we pray.

Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LAMALFA led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Kaitlyn Roberts, one of his secretaries.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

## THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DESERVE BETTER

(Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on an urgent matter confronting our country.

The American people are experiencing the worst series of self-inflicted crises in a generation.

Inflation is at a 40-year high. Gas is up 42 percent. Utilities are up 20 percent.

Either President Biden doesn't care or is being insulated from reality.

We saw the worst jobs report of the Presidency this last month. Self-induced labor shortages are plaguing businesses. Shelves are bare. Container ships are stacking up.

We have the worst Biden-created border crisis in 30 years, yet the President has time to go to Delaware every weekend but not the border?

Hundreds of Americans are still in Afghanistan, meanwhile President Biden and Democrats are trying to ram through trillions in new tax hikes.

So what is the administration working on? What are their priorities? A national gender strategy. Are you kidding me? This administration cares more about which pronoun you use than countering the Chinese threat or the threat at our southern border.

Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve better than this. My constituents deserve better than this. Our Nation deserves better than this.

## RECOGNIZING PEAK FARMS

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, once again this year, a local farm in North Caro-

lina's Fifth District has been selected to provide the White House Christmas tree.

Rusty and Beau Estes, the owners of Peak Farms in Ashe County, are no strangers to this prestigious selection process.

In both 2008 and 2012, Peak Farms provided Fraser firs to the White House, and in 2018, the farm was selected to deliver the Christmas tree to the residence of Vice President Mike Pence.

Mr. Speaker, this is a terrific accomplishment, and it represents the best that North Carolina has to offer.

Congratulations to both Rusty and Beau. Mr. Speaker, yet again, Rusty and Beau have proven that North Carolina's Fifth District is the premier provider of Christmas trees throughout the country.

## RECOGNIZING THE DEPARTURE OF RILEY SCOTT

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with bittersweet sentiments.

I recognize the departure of my legislative assistant, Riley Scott, of Petaluma, California, to an amazing, new adventure.

Riley has been, in addition to her strong work in my office for 2 years, a lifetime swimmer and received a full ride out of high school to USC where she won several PAC-12 championships and competed at the top level in the NCAA's.

I point out this impressive record because Riley's new opportunity will be competing to represent our country in the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Riley will be training for the women's pentathlon, which consists of, of course, swimming, horsemanship, a combination of running, pistol shooting, and fencing.

Now, I told Riley that there is a lot of fencing around our ranch that needed to be repaired, but she said that wasn't the same thing.

I told Riley early on if she ever had this type of opportunity post college, she had to go out and take that chance and do it, and so she is.

It is a loss for our office and here in Congress, but watch as Riley goes for the gold as Californians are known to do.

Fight on to victory, Riley Coyote.

## AMERICA'S ENERGY SECURITY IS IN JEOPARDY

(Mr. BILIRAKIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, President Biden's radical policies have stymied America's energy independence and created a crisis, unfortunately.

The national average price for a gallon of gas has climbed to its highest

level since 2014 and is 66 percent higher than it was last year.

On day one, President Biden destroyed 11,000 American jobs by canceling the Keystone Pipeline.

President Biden paused new domestic oil and gas leases, which will cost one million American jobs and decrease the GDP by \$700 billion.

Instead of allowing American companies to increase domestic production and hire more U.S. workers, President Biden and his administration has pleaded with OPEC and Russia to increase global output to ease rising fuel prices.

Democrats in Congress are pushing a multitrillion-dollar spending package, which includes a tax hike on fuel.

These actions jeopardize our Nation's energy security and will increase costs for all American families, unfortunately.

## RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 8 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1700

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MCNERNEY) at 5 p.m.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on the motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on the postponed questions at a later time.

## SOVEREIGN DEBT CONTRACT CAPACITY ACT

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4111) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to direct the United States Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund to advocate that the Fund provide technical assistance to Fund members seeking to enhance their capacity to evaluate the legal and financial terms of sovereign debt contracts, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4111

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

## SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Sovereign Debt Contract Capacity Act".